

SOMBER ANNIVERSARY WEEK FOR
NASA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I ran for this office and serve in this Chamber with great hope for our future, but on this occasion it is fitting that we take a moment to remember a very important part of our past.

The success of our Nation's space program rests not just in technology and rockets, but in the ingenuity, innovation and bravery of its people. And I am proud to represent many of the thousands of dedicated workers who support our manned space program at the Johnson Space Center, an important component of our nation-wide NASA family.

But today I rise to specifically recognize the 17 brave men and women who paid the ultimate cost to further the exploration of space. It's an odd quirk of history that NASA commemorates the anniversary of three of its most tragic episodes during the same calendar week. Yesterday, January 27, was the 42nd anniversary of the Apollo I fire that took the lives of the crew of Gus Grissom, Ed White and Roger Chaffee.

Today, January 28, is the 23rd anniversary of the Challenger disaster and her crew, Commander Dick Scobee, pilot Michael Smith, mission specialists Judy Resnick, Ellison Onizuka and Ron McNair, and payload specialists Gregory Jarvis and Christa McAuliffe, the first teacher in space.

This Sunday, February 1, is the sixth anniversary of the loss of the Shuttle Columbia and her crew of Commander Rick Husband, pilot William McCool, mission specialists David Brown, Laurel Clark and Dr. Kulpana Chawla, payload specialist Michael Anderson and payload specialist Ilan Ramon. One mission was on the pad, one had just launched, and one was coming home. Yet all three crews willingly took the risks inherent in space flight to help push man and science farther into the future.

I will never forget President Reagan's stirring words when he addressed the American people following the Challenger tragedy. He said, "We will never forget them nor the last time we saw them this morning, as they prepared for their journey and waived goodbye and slipped the surly bonds of Earth to touch the face of God."

During this anniversary week, we must never forget and never stop exploring.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CALVERT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FEDEX: SETTING A GREAT
EXAMPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COHEN. In the Tuesday newspapers and the Tuesday news, we had the distressing report that corporate giants, major corporations, had slashed over 70,000 jobs in America. This type of action, where 7,000 people lost their jobs at American Express and Home Depot—up to 53,000 people at Citigroup lost their jobs over the last few years—have caused great distress to many citizens. We've got more unemployed, going over 7 percent now.

But these job cuts aren't absolutely necessary to be made. Employment is disappearing from every job sector, from home building to mortgages, finance to banking, manufacturing to retail. The toll on the economy and on individuals has substantially worsened. And as President Obama stated in his inaugural address, our economy is badly weakened, the challenges we face are real, and they will not be met easily or in a short span of time.

We took action today, and we will take additional action to try to help the people who are unemployed with additional unemployment compensation and health care and whatever other benefits we can help with.

But a particular industry in my community of Memphis, Tennessee, the lead corporate citizen, Federal Express, has set an example that I wish the other corporate leaders that have cut so many jobs recently and have cuts in the past would follow. Fred Smith of Federal Express chose not to hurt people, but to take the cut as a group. They chose to have benefits and pay cuts rather than additional layoffs. With 14,000 salaried employees in Memphis and 36,000 worldwide, they decided each of these people would see a 5 percent pay cut.

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They could have easily just cut 5 percent off the payroll, 5 percent of the people. But instead they kept all of those employees and had them all share the burden of a 5 percent pay cut.

The executives of Federal Express will take a pay cut of 7.5 percent. And the president, chairman, and CEO, Frederick W. Smith, will take a 20 percent cut in pay.

This is the type of leadership that I wish other corporations would look at, follow, and emulate, and spare their employees the loss of a job and instead share it throughout the corporate ranks.

This follows the \$1 billion in cost reductions already in place at Federal Express, from executive bonus suspensions to personnel reductions at FedEx Freight and FedEx Office. In total, the company is cutting costs by approximately \$800 million over the next 18 months without having to resort to layoffs.

I want to commend FedEx Chairman and CEO Frederick W. Smith for seeking other cost-cutting alternatives first and finding ways to help hard-working Memphis and other citizens around the world who work for FedEx keep their jobs. One can see easily why FedEx has been a leader in business creativity for over 30 years, has made the Fortune Magazine list of "100 Best Companies to Work For" in 11 of the past 12.

Fred Smith and Federal Express are leaders in corporate America. They're leaders in my community. And I hope that corporate America will look to them for their leadership. We cannot afford to have increasing unemployment rates, and as we have taken action today, corporate America should as well. And Fred Smith and Federal Express set the lead.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SCHIFF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. BIGGERT addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. FOXX addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF
THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
111TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PETERSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Rule XI, clause 2(a) of the Rules of the House, a copy of the Rules of the Committee on Agriculture, which were adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee on January 28, 2009.

Appendix A of the Committee Rules will include excerpts from the Rules of the House relevant to the operation of the Committee. Appendix B will include relevant excerpts from the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. In the interests of minimizing printing costs, Appendices A and B are omitted from this submission.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE—
111TH CONGRESS

RULE I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) *Applicability of House Rules.*—(1) The Rules of the House shall govern the procedure of the Committee and its subcommittees, and the rules of the Committee on Agriculture so far as applicable shall be interpreted in accordance with the Rules of the